

WASHINGTON, DC – Congresswoman Gwen Moore today announced the City of Milwaukee and the Milwaukee County Transit Authority both received grants from the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009. The City of Milwaukee received \$766,686 for a Port Security Grant and the Milwaukee County Transit Authority received a \$232,780 transit security grant. The funding is part of the funding from DHS for 10 federal grant programs, totaling nearly \$970 million- of which the state of Wisconsin will receive over \$5.4 million. The funds will assist state, local and tribal governments and private industry in strengthening community preparedness. From 2003 through 2009, more than \$26.7 billion will have been provided to strengthen our nation's ability to prevent, protect, respond and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters or other emergencies.

"These grants help our local governments in their efforts to make both our port and public bus system safer," said Rep. Moore. "These grants are investments in the safety of our community and economic vitality. Keeping both safe and secure is essential to our area, people, and our economy."

Both the Milwaukee County Transit Authority and the City of Milwaukee have indicated how they intend to utilize the awarded funds. The Milwaukee Transit Authority intends to use the funds towards their ongoing security efforts. Conversely, the City of Milwaukee will use the funds to update its first responders' communication equipment making multiagency communication easier. In addition, they will purchase a hazmat vehicle, a harbor patrol boat, harbor radiological detectors and above water and below water detectors.

The City of Milwaukee's grant proposal was a joint effort between the Milwaukee Police and Fire Departments as well as the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The joint venture underlines the importance of interagency communication during an emergency. During the terrorist attacks of 2001, lack of communication between agencies was one of the deficiencies highlighted in its aftermath.

Seven years of homeland security investments have established the foundation for future preparedness initiatives from the initial start-up years, building baseline capabilities in the states and increasing cross-border and regional preparedness. The FY 2009 Preparedness Grants underline this effort by focusing on improving strategic planning and preparedness and measuring performance.

"Though our country has not seen attacks of the magnitude of 9/11 in almost 8 years, we need to do our part to help local governments strengthen our prevention and security efforts at the ground level," said Congresswoman Moore. "Unfortunately, all the money in the world cannot guarantee that we will be 100% safe but we can take proactive steps to ensure our ports and public transit are as safe as possible."

Grant program allocations nationwide for FY 2009 are:

- Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) – \$388.6 million to protect critical transit

infrastructure from terrorism, including:

- Freight Rail Security Grant Program (FRSGP) – \$15 million to target resources for security plans, vulnerability assessments, employee security awareness training and GPS tracking systems for railroad cars transporting toxic inhalation materials.
  
- Intercity Passenger Rail (Amtrak) – \$25 million for Amtrak to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism, major disasters and other emergencies within the Amtrak rail system.
  
- Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP) – \$11.7 million to assist operators of fixed-route intercity and charter bus services to support security plans, facility security upgrades and vehicle and driver protection.
  
- Trucking Security Program (TSP) – \$2.2 million to implement security improvement measures and policies that focus on the purchase, installation or enhancement of equipment and systems related to tractor and trailer tracking systems; to help develop a system for DHS to monitor, collect and analyze tracking information; and to develop plans to improve the transport and distribution of supplies and commodities during catastrophic events. DHS did not receive enough applications to fully fund the program through the initial solicitation, so only \$2.2 million is being announced at this time.
  
- Port Security Grant Program (PSGP) – \$388.6 million to protect critical port infrastructure from terrorism, enhance maritime domain awareness and risk management capabilities to protect against improvised explosive devices and other non-conventional weapons; and to conduct training and exercises and support implementation of the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC).
  
- Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP) – \$48.6 million to increase preparedness capabilities of jurisdictions responsible for safeguarding critical infrastructure sites and key resource assets, such as chemical facilities and nuclear power plants, through planning and equipment acquisition.
  
- Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program – \$33 million to improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure and interoperable EOCs to address identified deficiencies and needs. The grant provides funding for construction or renovation of a state, local or tribal government's principal EOC.

- Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) – \$48.6 million for planning, training, exercises and equipment to states, territories, local and tribal governments to carry out initiatives identified in Statewide Communication Interoperability Plans, and improve interoperable emergency communications for responding to natural disasters and acts of terrorism.

- Driver's License Security Grant Program (DLSGP) – \$48.6 million to prevent terrorism, reduce fraud and to improve the reliability and accuracy of personal identification documents that states and territories issue.

Further information on preparedness grant programs is available at [www.](http://www.dhs.gov)

[dhs.gov](http://dhs.gov)

and

[www.fema.gov/grants](http://www.fema.gov/grants)

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